

1                   IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
2                   FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA            )     CASE NO. 1:19CR529-1  
4                                        )     )  
5                                        )     Winston-Salem, North Carolina  
6                                        )     April 27, 2021  
                                      )     8:54 a.m.  
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8                   TRANSCRIPT OF THE **TRIAL/VERDICT**  
9                   **VOLUME VII OF VII (Pgs. 1384-1423)**  
10                  BEFORE THE HONORABLE THOMAS D. SCHROEDER  
11                  UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

12 APPEARANCES:

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30                   Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenotype reporter.  
31                   Transcript produced by computer-aided transcription.

## P R O C E E D I N G S

(The Defendant was present.)

**THE COURT:** All right. Have you all had an opportunity to review all the exhibits and have them all organized?

**MR. GREEN:** We do.

**THE COURT:** Everybody is in agreement as to what goes back?

**MR. FOSTER:** Yes.

**THE COURT:** Ordinarily, of course, I would not send the firearm back. I certainly would not send both firearm and ammunition in the jury room. I think I told them I would send back everything but the firearms. I guess the question is whether the ammunition should stay here as well or not.

**MR. GREEN:** We think it should, Your Honor. I think our view is -- because, obviously, we still have -- we don't know the fate of this case, or we do have cases pending which may require this evidence. I think the Government's view would be if they requested to see a certain piece of the physical evidence, that they ask to be brought back into the jury room, and we can kind of have an observation to make sure all that is maintained.

**THE COURT:** Is all the physical exhibit in the box right there?

**MR. GREEN:** It is.

1           **THE COURT:** So you would request that all the  
2 physical evidence to remain in the courtroom?

3           **MR. GREEN:** I would.

4           **THE COURT:** And that's because you have other  
5 potential matters?

6           **MR. GREEN:** We do.

7           **THE COURT:** Any objection to that?

8           **MR. FOSTER:** No, Your Honor.

9           **THE COURT:** I will tell the jury that the physical  
10 evidence will remain in the courtroom. If they want to see any  
11 of it, they are welcome; they just need to come and ask.

12           **MR. GREEN:** Yes, Your Honor.

13           **THE COURT:** So the plan is to bring them in and tell  
14 them that.

15           You've reviewed the other materials to go back, all  
16 the exhibits, as well as the final version of the Court's  
17 instructions, as well as the verdict form and the indictment;  
18 is that right?

19           **MR. GREEN:** We have reviewed all of those pieces of  
20 evidence.

21           **THE COURT:** And the same with the Defendant?

22           **MR. FOSTER:** Yes, Your Honor.

23           **THE COURT:** All right. Let's bring the jury in. You  
24 can bring the alternates in too.

25           (The jury returned to the courtroom at 8:55 a.m.)

1           **THE COURT:** Please be seated everyone.

2           All right. Ladies and gentlemen, welcome back. I'm  
3 about to dismiss the jury and instruct you to resume your  
4 deliberations.

5           I told you I would send the evidence into the jury  
6 room for you along with the Court's instructions and form of  
7 verdict sheet as well as the indictment, and I made a reference  
8 to not sending the firearms back. I wanted to clarify that.  
9 I'm not going to send back any of the physical evidence, which  
10 is the stuff in the box.

11           If you want to see any of that, you're more than  
12 welcome to see that. You're entitled to see it. I will simply  
13 ask that you ask to see it, and then I'll bring you into the  
14 courtroom, and you will be able to see it as a group here in  
15 the courtroom; but that way I won't be sending back any of it  
16 into the jury room.

17           All right. So at this time I'm going to instruct the  
18 members of the jury to resume your deliberations.

19           And I'm going to ask the two alternates to continue  
20 to abide by all my admonitions not to discuss the case and  
21 don't do any research. You're not yet a member of the actual  
22 jury. I might need you for that, and it's important that you  
23 remain eligible to do that. So simply follow all my  
24 admonitions and, most importantly, don't talk about any aspect  
25 of the case. Simply use your time to do something more

1 productive on your own while you're waiting. Okay?

2 All right. If you would, please take the jury to the  
3 jury room.

4 I will call for you at 12:30, if I don't hear from  
5 you before then for any reason, and I will call for you at  
6 12:30 and then dismiss you as a group for lunch at that time.

7 (The jury departed the courtroom to resume deliberations  
8 at 9:00 a.m.)

9 **THE COURT:** All right. Please be seated everyone.

10 Any objection to my instructions?

11 **MR. GREEN:** No, Your Honor.

12 **MR. FOSTER:** No, Your Honor.

13 **THE COURT:** Any other issue you want to raise?

14 **MR. GREEN:** No, Your Honor.

15 **MR. FOSTER:** Not by defense.

16 **THE COURT:** So if you would, as I said, just be  
17 available where Ms. Engle can reach you on short notice in case  
18 the jury has any questions or anything for us to address.  
19 Otherwise, we'll just stand at ease and await the jury.

20 All right. So we'll stand at ease.

21 (Proceedings recessed at 9:02 a.m.)

22 (Proceedings called back to order at 12:31 p.m.)

23 (The Defendant was present.)

24 **THE COURT:** All right. The jury is not in the  
25 courtroom. I received a note from the jury. Let me read it to

1 you, and then I would like to show it to you if you want to see  
2 it.

3 It's dated today at 12:18 -- it doesn't say a.m. or  
4 p.m., but it must be p.m. -- signed by the foreman, Christopher  
5 Putnam. And the question is: "Count Four, do we have attach  
6 the actual ammunition to the Defendant or is aiding and  
7 abetting enough to convict?"

8 Would you all like to see the note?

9 **MR. GREEN:** I don't need to see it, Your Honor.

10 **MR. FOSTER:** No, Your Honor.

11 **THE COURT:** I would be happy to hear from you before  
12 I indicate what I would be inclined to do.

13 **MR. FOSTER:** Well, Your Honor, based on the  
14 instruction you added in yesterday about -- that they have to  
15 be unanimous in which, if any, caliber of ammunition, I  
16 think -- I guess the answer would be, yes, they can find guilt,  
17 aiding and abetting, but they still have to be unanimous on  
18 which, if any, caliber ammunition it is, it would seem to me.

19 **THE COURT:** All right. Mr. Green, do you want to be  
20 heard?

21 **MR. GREEN:** Well, I guess the first question is -- of  
22 course, the answer is yes. But how do we instruct them on the  
23 law on that answer? And the question is whether you simply  
24 reinstruct them on the elements of the offense, adding aiding  
25 and abetting. Of course, you encapsulated all of that, that

1 they do have to be unanimous on which of the charge -- or they  
2 can be unanimous on all or two or just one of the charged  
3 ammunition, but, yes, they can find -- if they agree  
4 unanimously, they can find that he can be convicted on a theory  
5 of aiding and abetting.

6 **THE COURT:** All right.

7 **MR. GREEN:** That's not much help. I can tell you're  
8 looking at me like "What I am supposed to say to them?"

9 So the options sometimes are you can simply  
10 reinstruct them. Sometimes -- you know, the jurors have a copy  
11 of the instructions. Of course, when juries send these notes,  
12 I always thought they are relying on us to answer the question.  
13 I think the question is, yes, you may find -- if you find the  
14 Defendant --

15 **THE COURT:** Well, the question is compound. Do we  
16 have -- and there is a "to" missing, I think. "Do we have" to  
17 "attach the actual ammunition to the Defendant or is aiding and  
18 abetting enough to convict?"

19 So when you say "the answer is yes," I'm not sure  
20 what you mean.

21 **MR. GREEN:** Right. I guess that's correct.

22 So for actual possession, the answer would be, yes,  
23 you would have to be unanimous as to one or more of the  
24 specific calibers of ammunition, if by "attach" that's what  
25 they are referring to.

1           Then it can also be convicted on a theory of joint  
2 possession. Again, you would have to be unanimous on one or  
3 more of the charged calibers.

4           And then, third, the Defendant may be convicted on a  
5 theory of aiding and abetting, but you would have to be  
6 unanimous on -- as to one or more of the calibers that are  
7 charged. That's how I see answering the question.

8           **THE COURT:** All right. Give me a minute.

9           Yes, sir?

10          **MR. FOSTER:** Well, it seems to me the answer to the  
11 question is, yes, you must unanimously agree to which, if any,  
12 of the types of ammunition he's -- you find him guilty of.

13          And, secondly, yes, you can do this under an aiding  
14 and abetting theory if you're convinced beyond a reasonable  
15 doubt. I mean, I don't think we need to get into joint or  
16 constructive possession. I don't think they're asking about  
17 that.

18          **THE COURT:** All right. Hold on. Give me a minute to  
19 come up with what I think you're trying to say, and then I'll  
20 let you react to it. How about that?

21          (Pause in the proceedings.)

22          **THE COURT:** So let me ask. Under an aiding and  
23 abetting theory -- well, let me back up.

24          So the indictment charges three different types of  
25 ammunition. As I recall the evidence, the Government's case



1 was that Mr. Wiley himself actually possessed 9mm ammunition  
2 and that other coconspirators possessed .40 caliber and .45  
3 caliber ammunition. Am I right about that?

4 **MR. GREEN:** And 9mm.

5 **THE COURT:** Okay. And 9mm.

6 **MR. GREEN:** Yeah. There were four firearms.

7 **THE COURT:** So if the question relates to the .40 or  
8 .45 caliber or other 9mm ammunition, is it the Government's  
9 position that the Defendant can constructively possess that  
10 and, alternatively, aid and abet that possession?

11 **MR. GREEN:** Yes.

12 **THE COURT:** Whose possession is he's aiding and  
13 abetting?

14 **MR. GREEN:** Mr. Cox and the other named defendants  
15 that had those firearms and ammunition in the vehicle that he's  
16 rented and he is driving to and from the crime scene.

17 **THE COURT:** Do the Defendants want to be heard at  
18 all?

19 **MR. FOSTER:** Your Honor, the offense is possession of  
20 ammunition by a convicted felon, and the only evidence before  
21 the jury about anyone else who is convicted of a felony would  
22 be Mr. Cox, I believe. So it would have -- the only aiding and  
23 abetting -- the only way aiding and abetting would seem to  
24 apply is if we're talking about Mr. Cox possessing ammunition  
25 as a convicted felon and our client aiding and abetting that.

1 Mr. Cox had a -- by his own testimony was shooting .40 caliber  
2 ammunition.

3 So, anyway, I'm not sure where that leads us, but I'm  
4 still trying to think this through.

5 **THE COURT:** Does the Government want to be heard?

6 **MR. GREEN:** I don't know on an aiding and abetting  
7 theory if we would have to show that the other person was a  
8 felon. I don't know the answer to that.

9 So as I see the kind of -- the thing -- the jury  
10 could find that Mr. Wiley possessed a 9 or that he possessed a  
11 .45 -- or one of the two 9s or the .45. That's what they could  
12 find. They could find that he jointly possessed not only --  
13 all of the firearms: The 9 he had, the other 9, the .40, and  
14 the .45.

15 That point about the aiding and abetting I think  
16 is -- probably the safe answer is to say that as to aiding and  
17 abetting, possession of ammunition by a felon, that would apply  
18 to the .40 caliber and Mr. Cox. If you did not find -- in  
19 other words, not to any of those other theories I just  
20 mentioned, I think that probably -- this is me standing up and  
21 saying that sounds right now that I hear the Defendant's  
22 argument as to that question and the jurors' question.

23 **THE COURT:** Well, the Government charged .45 caliber  
24 as well.

25 **MR. GREEN:** We did.

1           **THE COURT:** But you're now, I think, saying that that  
2 would be not a basis for a conviction on aiding and abetting.  
3 Is that you're saying?

4           **MR. GREEN:** I need to look at that. I need a little  
5 time to see what additional -- so he can -- again, so if we  
6 think about this theory, under joint possession, right, I'm a  
7 felon. Can I aid counsel and ask you to carry ammunition which  
8 I intend to use? And I think the answer is, yes, that would be  
9 aiding and abetting still myself or aiding and abetting someone  
10 else.

11           So it does a little bit of -- turn on a little bit of  
12 the analysis that -- again, I was not anticipating this  
13 particular branching at the time. So we can either think about  
14 that a little bit further --

15           **THE COURT:** Well, it's lunchtime. I can send them  
16 off for lunch if you want to think about this, and then I will  
17 give them an instruction after lunch.

18           **MR. PRINCIPE:** Can we have two minutes, Your Honor --  
19 or not even that. Can we have a minute?

20           **THE COURT:** Yes.

21           (Assistant U.S. Attorneys conferred.)

22           **MR. GREEN:** If we could send them to lunch, Your  
23 Honor.

24           On that aiding and abetting question, I think, in our  
25 view, the actual and constructive possession would apply to all

1 the firearms we have evidence of, as well as the joint  
2 possession would apply to all of the firearms. But this issue  
3 of the aiding and abetting theory, standing alone, would that  
4 apply only to Mr. Cox? I would like just a moment to think  
5 about that, if it please the Court.

6 **THE COURT:** All right. I'm inclined to go ahead and  
7 send the jury to lunch.

8 Any objection?

9 **MR. FOSTER:** No, Your Honor.

10 **THE COURT:** Let's bring the jury down.

11 I will do that, and then we'll just chat a little  
12 more after we send them out.

13 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** The alternates too?

14 **THE COURT:** I would just bring in the jury. I am not  
15 proposing we bring in the alternates, unless anyone thinks I  
16 should.

17 **MR. GREEN:** No, Your Honor.

18 (Pause in the proceedings.)

19 **THE COURT:** If you would look over the lunch hour --  
20 I guess a question is how the aiding and abetting charge in  
21 Count Four applies, given the Government's evidence in the  
22 case.

23 **MR. GREEN:** I will do that, yes, Your Honor.

24 I will just say, Your Honor -- the jury is not in  
25 here -- again, there is a dovetail been the concept of joint

1 and aiding; that is, we can both possess it, or I can have you  
2 possess it for me if I need to use it. And so I will look  
3 exactly to that scenario. As I'm sitting here, that's kind of  
4 the overlap --

5 **THE COURT:** What's the difference between aiding and  
6 abetting under that scenario and pure joint possession?

7 **MR. GREEN:** Yes, Your Honor, I think that's probably  
8 the crux of the issue, and I'll try and delve a little deeper  
9 into it at the lunch break.

10 **THE COURT:** Okay. Once you all look at the issue, if  
11 you perhaps want to chat with each other before we come into  
12 court and then you will know each other's positions.

13 **MR. GREEN:** Yes, Your Honor.

14 **THE COURT:** If there is any agreement on anything,  
15 that would be helpful to know.

16 (The jury returned to the courtroom at 12:54 p.m.)

17 **THE COURT:** Ladies and gentlemen, it's five minutes  
18 to 1:00 p.m. I received a note from Mr. Putnam, who I presume  
19 is the foreperson; is that right, sir?

20 **JUROR NO. 8:** Yes, sir.

21 **THE COURT:** And it reads as follows: "Count Four, do  
22 we have attach the actual ammunition to the Defendant or is  
23 aiding and abetting enough to convict?"

24 What I am going to do is -- it is lunchtime, and I  
25 want to give you an opportunity to have lunch. Then I'll get

1 back with you with an answer -- or a response to your question  
2 right after lunch. So I called you in simply to tell you I'm  
3 going to dismiss you for a lunch break. So you should suspend  
4 your deliberations until I bring you back together again, and  
5 then you can resume your deliberations. When you do come back,  
6 I will bring you back into the courtroom, speak to you, and  
7 then let you resume your deliberations. All right.

8           So is an hour sufficient? Does anybody need more  
9 than an hour for lunch? If so, raise your hand.

10           So what I'll do is give you an hour for lunch. So if  
11 you would be back on the fourth floor ready to go at five to  
12 2:00, 1:55 p.m. Then I'll call you back in, and then we'll  
13 proceed from there.

14           In the meantime, as I said, remember all my  
15 admonitions: Don't do any other research; don't talk about the  
16 case. Suspend your deliberations until I bring you back and  
17 reinstruct you to resume your deliberations.

18           If you would leave your notes in your chairs,  
19 Ms. Engle will collect and redistribute those to you.

20           Please enjoy your lunch.

21           Everyone else please remain in the courtroom.

22           You're free to go to lunch at this time.

23           (The jury departed the courtroom at 12:56 p.m.)

24           **THE COURT:** All right. Please be seated, everyone.  
25 Let's give them a moment to clear out.

1 Can you bring the two alternates in, please.

2 (The alternate jurors returned to the courtroom.)

3 **THE COURT:** I want to let you know I am sending the  
4 jury out to lunch at this time, and so I'm going to also  
5 indicate that you all are free to go to lunch. Continue to  
6 follow all my admonitions. I appreciate your patience. And  
7 remember all my admonitions: Don't talk about the case or do  
8 any research.

9 I asked the others to be back in about an hour. So  
10 if you could be back at 1:55, reporting back there to the third  
11 floor -- or second floor, rather, across the hall, that would  
12 be good. That would be Courtroom 3.

13 Enjoy your lunch, please. Leave your envelopes here,  
14 and Ms. Engle will keep those for safekeeping.

15 (The alternate jurors departed the courtroom.)

16 **THE COURT:** Please be seated.

17 All right. The alternates and all jurors are outside  
18 of the courtroom.

19 If you would take a look at that, and then I would  
20 ask you all to propose whatever language you think I should use  
21 in terms of instructing the jury at this point.

22 So why don't we try to get back together at 1:45, so  
23 that's 45 minutes, to look at this issue and see where we stand  
24 at that point. So we'll be in recess until 1:45.

25 (Proceedings recessed at 1:00 p.m.)

1 (Proceedings called back to order at 1:54 p.m.)

2 (The Defendant was present.)

3 **THE COURT:** All right. Mr. Green?

4 **MR. GREEN:** So, Your Honor, we did do some further  
5 inquiry at lunch, and the bottom line up front is going to be  
6 that, given the status of the evidence before the Court and the  
7 jury, we don't believe the jurors should be instructed on  
8 aiding and abetting as to Count Four, or to answer it in  
9 another way, they should be reinstructed that they should only  
10 consider the sole/joint constructive possession as to Count  
11 Four.

12 I have discussed this with counsel. They agree with  
13 that calculus. I have a copy of a proposed thing to read to  
14 the jury. I'll hand it up. But just so you know kind of the  
15 some background of this -- and, you know, this happens  
16 sometimes. Jurors are thinking about stuff, and they point  
17 stuff out.

18 When we think about it, it looks clearly from the  
19 case law you cannot aid and abet yourself. And then the  
20 question kind of shifts. Okay, what must you prove to prove  
21 aiding and abetting possession of a firearm by a felon?

22 There is a single district court case that we were  
23 able to find over lunch, again working very quickly, that  
24 acknowledged a circuit split on that question, but that --

25 **THE COURT:** While you're speaking -- let me interrupt



1 you just for a minute and speak to my law clerk, because we're  
2 going to have to revise the verdict form. I propose that we  
3 give the jury a new verdict form.

4 **MR. GREEN:** Yes, that's exactly what I was going to  
5 propose, yes, sir.

6 **THE COURT:** Okay. Let me get that process started  
7 and ask my law clerk if he could revise the verdict form on  
8 Count Four to remove in the title and in the -- any reference  
9 within there to aiding and abetting.

10 All right. Go ahead.

11 **MR. GREEN:** And, again, as we looked at this 2011  
12 district court opinion --

13 **THE COURT:** Who is -- what is the opinion?

14 **MR. GREEN:** I have a copy, if you would like it.

15 **THE COURT:** All right.

16 **MR. GREEN:** It is an Eastern District of Virginia,  
17 District Court. It looks like Senior District Court Judge  
18 Doumar. And I will hand it up. 837 F. Supp. 2d 589.

19 **THE COURT:** The Government has come to what  
20 conclusion?

21 **MR. GREEN:** Essentially that there is -- at least, I  
22 think, looking at that opinion, that's certainly persuasive  
23 reasoning that there is a requirement that you know under  
24 aiding and abetting the status of the person that you're aiding  
25 and abetting under felon in possession of a firearm or

1 ammunition.

2           And as we looked at the evidence in this case over  
3 lunch, obviously, there is some evidence the Defendant --  
4 Mr. Cox is a felon, and that came out at trial. It did not  
5 come out as to any of the other individuals that that might  
6 apply to.

7           And as to that, we do have -- there is evidence,  
8 obviously, elicited by the defense that Mr. Cox was convicted a  
9 short time before this offense, that Mr. Cox and Mr. Wiley were  
10 in communications with one another and that they were together  
11 on three consecutive -- or at least two consecutive dates prior  
12 to the 15th. However, probably not enough to show that  
13 Mr. Wiley -- that it was communicated to Mr. Wiley or that he  
14 knew Mr. Cox was actually a felon. Thus, we think instructing  
15 the jury in the way I presented I think -- nope. Let me hand  
16 up proposed language for the Court.

17           **THE COURT:** All right.

18           **MR. GREEN:** I have one extra copy.

19           **THE COURT:** That's all right.

20           All right. So you're proposing that I, for the  
21 record, read the following:

22           "Members of the jury, through your foreperson, you  
23 have sent the following question" -- then I would read the  
24 question, and then add -- "Earlier I instructed you that you  
25 could find the Defendant guilty as to Counts Two and Four under

1 a theory known as aiding and abetting. I now instruct you as  
2 to Count Four, possession of ammunition by a felon, you may  
3 find the Defendant guilty of that offense only if you find,"  
4 and then you have a bracket, [read jury instruction Count  
5 Four], closed bracket, "excluding aiding and abetting. I am  
6 going to provide you a new verdict sheet that removes aiding  
7 and abetting as to Count Four. Other than that change, the new  
8 verdict sheet is identical" -- you have "as." I would say  
9 "identical to the one you have been provided previously. Place  
10 your verdict as to Counts One through Three on this new verdict  
11 sheet."

12 **MR. GREEN:** That is what we propose.

13 **THE COURT:** All right? The Defendant in agreement.

14 **MR. FOSTER:** We're in agreement, Your Honor.

15 **THE COURT:** So are you asking me to reread the Count  
16 Four jury instruction?

17 **MR. GREEN:** I am.

18 **THE COURT:** All right.

19 **MR. GREEN:** Because I do -- they did ask a compound  
20 question, and I think the defense has raised the question or  
21 issue as to the anonymity of the verdict as to which charged  
22 ammunition, and I just think that's the safer course is to read  
23 the -- again, reinforcing that this will be the only applicable  
24 law as to Count Four.

25 **THE COURT:** Would you propose that I also instruct

1 the jury that since they have my written instructions, on pages  
2 35 and 36, that they should delete from that any reference to  
3 Count Four and that should only refer to Count Two?

4 **MR. GREEN:** Yes, Your Honor.

5 **THE COURT:** Any objection to that?

6 **MR. FOSTER:** No, Your Honor.

7 **THE COURT:** All right. Does anybody believe that I  
8 need to physically collect the jury's instructions and make any  
9 changes? Are you satisfied with my oral instructions?

10 **MR. GREEN:** We would be satisfied with your oral  
11 instruction.

12 **MR. FOSTER:** I think we would prefer that the aiding  
13 and abetting instructions be removed and replaced.

14 **THE COURT:** All right. Well, what I can do is I can  
15 simply revise those and then reprint the instructions, and then  
16 we'll substitute in the instructions with that change along  
17 with the jury verdict form.

18 Is that acceptable to the Government.

19 **MR. GREEN:** It is, Your Honor.

20 **THE COURT:** If you will give me about three minutes,  
21 I will do that. And then we'll bring the jury in, and I'll  
22 proceed in that fashion.

23 I'm going to allow you to take a look at the new  
24 draft that we hand to the jury before we give it to them. So  
25 give me three or four minutes, and we'll do that.

1 (Proceedings recessed at 2:02 p.m.)

2 (Proceedings called back to order at 2:14 p.m.)

3 (The Defendant was present.)

4 **THE COURT:** All right. That's the verdict sheet, so  
5 if you all would just take a look at that.

6 When you look at the instructions, the changes were  
7 on Count Four. I believe it was the heading that we removed,  
8 Section 2.

9 **MR. GREEN:** Yes, Your Honor.

10 **THE COURT:** And then aiding and abetting now on pages  
11 35 and 36 refers only to Count Two, and the references  
12 throughout should only be to Count Two, if we caught them all.

13 All right. Any comments on the jury instructions?

14 **MR. GREEN:** Not on the instructions, Your Honor.

15 **MR. FOSTER:** No objection, Your Honor.

16 **THE COURT:** What about the verdict form?

17 **MR. GREEN:** The same.

18 **MR. FOSTER:** Same.

19 **THE COURT:** All right. So Ms. Engle has collected  
20 the jury instructions and the verdict form. The verdict form  
21 is blank. There is nothing on the verdict form. I just want  
22 the record to reflect that.

23 Does anybody -- I will tell you what I will do is I  
24 will preserve the verdict form as a court exhibit in order to  
25 demonstrate that fact.

1           So my proposal would be simply to give them the new  
2 verdict form.

3           Any objection to doing that?

4           **MR. GREEN:** No, Your Honor.

5           **MR. FOSTER:** No, Your Honor.

6           **THE COURT:** Okay. All right. So let me get my  
7 notes.

8           We will bring in the jury. I will read the  
9 agreed-upon instruction. I will also tell them that they will  
10 get a new verdict form and new jury instructions that conform  
11 to these instructions. All right.

12           **MR. GREEN:** With regard to saying you will read, the  
13 Government is requesting that you read pages 29 through 31 and  
14 then pages 33 and 34.

15           **MR. FOSTER:** Your Honor, we would object to the  
16 reading of two second pages. That seems to highlight --

17           **THE COURT:** The pages dealing with possession?

18           **MR. FOSTER:** Yeah, the types of possession.

19           **THE COURT:** Okay. All right. I'm inclined simply to  
20 read the Count Four portion without the possession --  
21 additional two pages of possession. I would be inclined to  
22 tell the jury that that -- they should consider the  
23 instructions as a whole and review all the instructions.

24           Do you want to be heard any further?

25           **MR. GREEN:** If we're going to reinstruct on the

1 count, then that section of the instruction is in there to  
2 explain, when you use the word "possession," what you mean.  
3 That would seem like you're -- we're kind of reinstructing on  
4 not all of the count, the relevant law.

5           So, certainly, I don't want to argue for 20 minutes  
6 about it, but the Government's position is that you should  
7 explain to the jury -- if you're going to read them Count Four  
8 again, to clarify exactly the theories under which he can be  
9 held accountable, Mr. Wiley, that is, that you should read both  
10 the possession section and sole and joint possession.

11           But I certainly -- again, I'm not -- don't want to  
12 belabor to point, Your Honor.

13           **MR. FOSTER:** Again, Your Honor, we object to that  
14 just because the jury question did not ask anything about types  
15 of possession, so to provide more information on that doesn't  
16 even address their question.

17           **THE COURT:** Well, the question is "do we have attach  
18 the actual ammunition?" I'm not sure I know what that means.  
19 Attach could be do we have to show possession? Do we have to  
20 find possession or not?

21           I think what I am inclined to do is read Count Four  
22 and then indicate to the jury that they should read that in the  
23 context of all the instructions, including the instruction on  
24 possession. And then I won't repeat the whole possession  
25 instruction.

1 All right. Any objection if I do that?

2 **MR. GREEN:** No, Your Honor.

3 **THE COURT:** All right. Any objection?

4 **MR. FOSTER:** No, Your Honor.

5 **THE COURT:** I will hopefully remember to do that.  
6 Let's bring the jury in, please.

7 (The jury returned to the courtroom at 2:24 p.m.)

8 **THE COURT:** All right. Please be seated.

9 Ladies and gentlemen, welcome back.

10 Members of the jury, through your foreperson, you  
11 have sent to me the following question:

12 "Count Four, do we have attach the actual ammunition  
13 to the Defendant or is aiding and abetting enough to convict?"  
14 Signed by the foreperson this date at 12:18 p.m.

15 Earlier I instructed you that you could find the  
16 Defendant guilty as to Counts Two and Four under a theory known  
17 as aiding and abetting. I now instruct you as to Count Four,  
18 possession of ammunition by a felon. You may find the  
19 Defendant guilty of that offense only if you find the  
20 following:

21 The superseding indictment charges the Defendant in  
22 Count Four with possession of ammunition by a convicted felon.  
23 When a person has been convicted of a crime punishable by more  
24 than one year of imprisonment, that is, a felony, and that  
25 conviction has neither been expunged nor set aside or that



1 person has not been pardoned or had his civil rights restored,  
2 then Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(1), makes it  
3 a federal crime or offense for that person, with knowledge of  
4 that felony conviction, to knowingly possess any ammunition  
5 which has been in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce.

6 For you to find the Defendant guilty of this offense,  
7 the must Government must prove each of the following beyond a  
8 reasonable doubt:

9 First, that on or about April 15, 2018, the Defendant  
10 knowingly possessed ammunition. In this case, the Government  
11 charges that the Defendant knowingly possessed Winchester .45  
12 caliber ammunition, Winchester .40 caliber ammunition, or  
13 Winchester 9mm ammunition;

14 And, second, at the time of the possession, that the  
15 Defendant had previously been convicted in any court of a crime  
16 punishable by imprisonment for a term in excess of one year,  
17 that is, a felony, and the conviction not been expunged, set  
18 aside, or pardoned;

19 Third, the Government must prove that at the time of  
20 the possession the Defendant knew that he had previously been  
21 convicted in a court of a crime punishable by imprisonment for  
22 a term exceeding one year, that is, a felony;

23 And, fourth, that the possession of the ammunition  
24 was in or affecting commerce; that is, at some point prior to  
25 the Defendant's possession, the ammunition had traveled from

1 one state to another or from a foreign country to the United  
2 States.

3           The term "ammunition," as to that term is used in  
4 these instructions, means ammunition or cartridge cases,  
5 primers, bullets, or propellant powder designed for use in any  
6 firearm.

7           It is not necessary for the Government to prove that  
8 the Defendant knew he was prohibited from possessing  
9 ammunition.

10           In this case the Defendant and the Government have  
11 stipulated, that is, they have agreed, that the Defendant has  
12 such a felony conviction and had knowledge of that felony  
13 conviction. Therefore, the Government was not required to  
14 present additional evidence on the second or third elements,  
15 and you may properly consider those facts as having been  
16 proved.

17           The parties have also entered into a stipulation with  
18 respect to certain items of evidence constituting ammunition  
19 within the meaning of this count. However, while the  
20 stipulation of the Defendant's prior conviction is necessary  
21 and proper, you should not conclude that because the Defendant  
22 committed a crime in the past, he committed the offenses with  
23 which he is currently charged. Nor should you conclude that  
24 any prior conviction shows general bad character or a  
25 likelihood that the Defendant would commit future crimes.

1           As I have instructed, the Defendant is presumed  
2 innocent until proven guilty of the current charges.  
3 Therefore, you should consider the stipulation of the  
4 Defendant's prior conviction to determine whether the  
5 Government has proved these elements of the offense beyond a  
6 reasonable doubt.

7           The superseding indictment charges that the Defendant  
8 possessed multiple items of ammunition. It is not necessary  
9 that you find that the Defendant possessed all of the  
10 ammunition. However, before you may find the Defendant guilty  
11 of this count, you must unanimously agree based upon proof  
12 beyond a reasonable doubt as to which ammunition the Defendant  
13 knowingly possessed.

14           Before the Defendant may be convicted of the offense  
15 charged in Count Four of the superseding indictment, you must  
16 unanimously agree that the Government has proved beyond a  
17 reasonable doubt each element of the offense charged in the  
18 superseding indictment, as I have just instructed. If the  
19 Government fails to prove even one of these elements beyond a  
20 reasonable doubt, then you must find the Defendant not guilty.

21           So you may find the Defendant guilty of this offense  
22 only if you find those elements as I have instructed and  
23 excluding aiding and abetting.

24           I'm going to provide you with a new verdict sheet  
25 that removes aiding and abetting as to Count Four. Other than

1 that change, the new verdict sheet is identical to the one you  
2 have previously been provided. Place your verdicts as to  
3 Counts One through Three as well as Count Four on that verdict  
4 sheet.

5 I instruct you that you are to consider the jury  
6 instructions as a whole, including all the other instructions,  
7 including the instruction as to possession as it relates to  
8 Count Four.

9 All right. Give me just a moment. If the lawyers  
10 would step up here.

11 (The following proceedings were had at the bench by the  
12 Court and Counsel out of the hearing of the jury:)

13 **THE COURT:** Any objections?

14 **MR. GREEN:** No, Your Honor.

15 **MR. FOSTER:** No, Your Honor.

16 **THE COURT:** All right.

17 (End of bench conference.)

18 **THE COURT:** So, ladies and gentlemen, I'm going to  
19 instruct you to return and continue your deliberations. You  
20 will be provided with a new set of jury instructions that  
21 conform to what I just told as well as a new verdict sheet that  
22 conforms to what I told you which removes aiding and abetting  
23 from Count Four.

24 So at this time, if you would, please resume your  
25 deliberations. If I don't hear from you at 5:00, I will call

1 for you at 5:00 and dismiss you for the day.

2 Everyone please remain in the courtroom while they  
3 leave.

4 (The jury departed to resume its deliberations at  
5 2:33 p.m.)

6 **THE COURT:** All right. Please be seated, everyone.

7 All right. We'll wait and see what further word we  
8 get from the jury. If you would, just be available so we can  
9 get you if we need to.

10 Both of you said no objection at the bench. I just  
11 want to confirm that there was no further objections as to the  
12 way that was handled?

13 **MR. GREEN:** Not from the Government.

14 **MR. FOSTER:** That's correct, Your Honor.

15 **THE COURT:** All right. So we'll stand at ease.

16 I'm going to mark the original instructions as a  
17 court exhibit as well so that that's preserved for the record,  
18 along with the original verdict form, which is blank at this  
19 point, and they will at least be available.

20 So stand at ease and we'll await word.

21 (Proceedings recessed at 2:34 p.m.)

22 (Proceedings called back to order at 3:22 p.m.)

23 (The Defendant was present.)

24 **THE COURT:** I am informed that the jury has indicated  
25 that it has a verdict.

1 Does anybody need to be heard before we bring the  
2 jury in?

3 **MR. GREEN:** No, Your Honor.

4 **MR. FOSTER:** No, Your Honor.

5 **THE COURT:** All right. You may bring the jury in  
6 please.

7 (The jury returned to the courtroom.)

8 **THE COURT:** Please be seated, everyone.

9 Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, I understand you've  
10 elected a foreperson. I think we learned that earlier.

11 Is that you, Mr. Putnam, No. 8?

12 **JUROR NO. 8:** That is correct.

13 **THE COURT:** Have you unanimously agreed on a verdict?

14 **JUROR NO. 8:** We have.

15 **THE COURT:** All right. Please hand the verdict to  
16 the clerk, who will hand it to me.

17 Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, your verdict will  
18 now be published. Please listen carefully. One or both  
19 parties may ask the jury verdict be polled, that is, to ask  
20 each juror, one by one, if the verdict, as published,  
21 constitutes his or her individual verdict in all respects.

22 I will ask at this time the clerk to please publish  
23 the verdict.

24 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** Members of the jury, please  
25 stand as the verdict is read.

1           Members of the jury, in Case No. 1:19CR529-1, United  
2 States of America versus Maurice Owen Wiley, Jr., you have  
3 answered as follows:

4           We, the jury, find the Defendant, Maurice Owen Wiley,  
5 Jr., guilty of the offense charged in Count One of the  
6 indictment, that is, conspiracy to interfere with commerce by  
7 robbery at the China Wok in Durham, North Carolina, from on or  
8 about April 13, 2018, continuing up to and including on or  
9 about April 15, 2018, in violation of Title 18, United States  
10 Code, Section 1951(a).

11           We, the jury, find the Defendant, Maurice Owen Wiley,  
12 Jr., guilty of the offense charged in Count Two of the  
13 indictment, that is, attempted Hobbs Act robbery of the China  
14 Wok in Durham, North Carolina, on or about April 15, 2018, in  
15 violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and  
16 2.

17           We, the jury, find the Defendant, Maurice Owen Wiley,  
18 Jr., guilty of the offense charged in Count Three of the  
19 indictment, that is, conspiracy to possess firearms in  
20 furtherance of a crime of violence on or about April 13, 2018,  
21 continuing up to and including April 15, 2018, in violation of  
22 Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(o).

23           We, the jury, find the Defendant, Maurice Owen Wiley,  
24 Jr., not guilty of the offense charged in Count Four of the  
25 indictment, that is, knowingly possessing ammunition on or

1 about April 15, 2018, in violation of Title 18, United States  
2 Code, Section 922(g)(1).

3 And this is dated April 27, 2021 and signed by the  
4 foreperson.

5 Is this your true verdict, so say you all?

6 (Affirmative response from members of the jury panel.)

7 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** Thank you. You may be  
8 seated.

9 **THE COURT:** All right. Does either party wish to  
10 have the jury polled?

11 **MR. FOSTER:** We do, Your Honor.

12 **THE COURT:** Ms. Engle, please poll the jury.

13 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** Members of the jury, as your  
14 name is called, please stand.

15 Juror No. 1, does the verdict, as published,  
16 constitute your individual verdict in all respects?

17 **JUROR NO. 1:** Yes.

18 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** Thank you. You may be  
19 seated.

20 Juror No. 2, does the verdict, as published,  
21 constitute your individual verdict in all respects?

22 **JUROR NO. 2:** Yes.

23 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** Thank you. You may be  
24 seated.

25 Juror No. 3, does the verdict, as published,



1 constitute your individual verdict in all respects?

2 **JUROR NO. 3:** Yes.

3 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** Thank you. You may be  
4 seated.

5 Juror No. 4, does the verdict, as published,  
6 constitute your individual verdict in all respects?

7 **JUROR NO. 4:** Yes.

8 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** Thank you.

9 Juror No. 5, does the verdict, as published,  
10 constitute your individual verdict in all respects?

11 **JUROR NO. 5:** Yes.

12 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** Thank you.

13 Juror No. 6, does the verdict, as published,  
14 constitute your individual verdict in all respects?

15 **JUROR NO. 6:** Yes.

16 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** Thank you.

17 Juror No. 7, does the verdict, as published,  
18 constitute your individual verdict in all respects?

19 **JUROR NO. 7:** Yes.

20 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** Thank you.

21 Juror No. 8, does the verdict, as published,  
22 constitute your individual verdict in all respects?

23 **JUROR NO. 8:** Yes.

24 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** Thank you.

25 Juror No. 9, does the verdict, as published,

1 constitute your individual verdict in all respects?

2 **JUROR NO. 9:** Yes.

3 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** Thank you.

4 Juror No. 10, does the verdict, as published,  
5 constitute your individual verdict in all respects?

6 **JUROR NO. 10:** Yes.

7 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** Thank you.

8 Juror No. 11, does the verdict, as published,  
9 constitute your individual verdict in all respects?

10 **JUROR NO. 11:** Yes.

11 **THE COURT:** Juror No. 12, does the verdict, as  
12 published, constitute your individual verdict in all respects?

13 **JUROR NO. 12:** Yes.

14 **COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK:** Thank you.

15 **THE COURT:** All right. I'm directing the clerk the  
16 file and record the verdict in this case.

17 Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, I want to thank you  
18 for your service in this case. We've tried to stay on  
19 schedule, and I tried to keep you apprised, and I think we  
20 largely followed that.

21 As I said at the outset, the parties in this case and  
22 the Court are all aware that you were summoned here at some  
23 inconvenience to other plans you may have had in your life.  
24 And it's not lost on any of us that we continue to deal the  
25 coronavirus pandemic, which added an extra layer of complexity

1 to the jury process, including the fact that some of our jurors  
2 are seated in the well of the court, which we ordinarily would  
3 not do. It also required that you socially distance yourself  
4 moving in and out of the court and to wear a mask throughout  
5 the proceedings.

6           So I think you've seen -- well, first, let me say  
7 thank you again for putting up with the additional burdens of  
8 jury service, above and beyond the ordinary burden of jury  
9 service; but I think you've seen firsthand what a high calling  
10 it is to serve on a jury.

11           Our right to a jury trial and our jury system really  
12 do set this nation apart from virtually every other country on  
13 the face of our earth, and that's because of jurors like you  
14 who are committed day by day to carefully listen to all the  
15 evidence, to be willing to serve, to be patient with the delays  
16 that are inherent in this system, and then to deliberate  
17 conscientiously over the evidence, and to resolve the disputes  
18 in very important matters that affect people's lives.

19           Your jury service is, in fact, a privilege. You have  
20 discharged your duty faithfully, and for that, I want to thank  
21 you not only on behalf of the Court, but on behalf of the  
22 parties and on behalf of your fellow citizens, many of whom  
23 probably have no idea that you were the ones serving on a jury.

24           But, as I said, what you do here is so vitally  
25 important to our democracy and to our freedoms. It's provided

1 for in our Constitution, and it guarantees the right of every  
2 person to a fair trial by a jury of his or her peers.

3           You are now free to discuss your verdict, if you wish  
4 to do that, but you have no obligation to do so. And nobody  
5 should ever harass you because of your jury service or your  
6 verdict in this case. If anybody does, bring it to my  
7 attention immediately. Let Ms. Engle know. I want to know  
8 about it, but you should never have anybody ever give you any  
9 trouble for having served as a juror in any case.

10           Ms. Engle will have some certificates for you. I'm  
11 going to ask before you leave if you would perhaps collect up  
12 on the -- across the hall in the courtroom with the alternate  
13 jurors so that she can then provide you with some certificates  
14 which reflect a small token of our thanks for your service as  
15 jurors.

16           So at this time, you are free to leave. You are  
17 discharged with our thanks for your service and with best  
18 wishes for continued good health.

19           (The jury departed the courtroom at 3:35 p.m.)

20           **THE COURT:** All right. Please be seated, everyone.

21           So, Mr. Foster?

22           **MR. FOSTER:** Yes, Your Honor. At this time we would  
23 renew our motion to dismiss for insufficient evidence under  
24 Rule 29 for all the same reasons previously stated.

25           **THE COURT:** All right. Hold on just a minute.

1 All right. Do you want to be heard at all,  
2 Mr. Green?

3 **MR. GREEN:** No, Your Honor.

4 **THE COURT:** All right. I had taken the motion under  
5 advisement. I think what I am going to do is contemplate just  
6 writing an order addressing the issues that are raised and  
7 resolving it in an order after -- within some period of time.  
8 I don't know if anybody further wants to brief any of the  
9 materials before I do that.

10 **MR. FOSTER:** We may, Your Honor. When should we do  
11 that by?

12 **THE COURT:** Well, I think the rule provides that  
13 within 14 days you can renew your motion. You just renewed it.  
14 Hold just a minute.

15 **MR. FOSTER:** Rule 29(c)(1) says 14 days.

16 **THE COURT:** Right. "Defendant may move for a  
17 judgment of acquittal or renew the motion within 14 days."  
18 You've renewed the motion. I think I can set whatever schedule  
19 for that. I would say 14 days.

20 Is that doable?

21 **MR. FOSTER:** Yes.

22 **THE COURT:** And then the Government can have -- do  
23 you need 14 days to respond?

24 **MR. GREEN:** I guess. I would like to see what the  
25 filing is.

1           **THE COURT:** So why I don't give the Defendant 14 days  
2 to brief its renewed Rule 29 motion, and then you can respond  
3 14 days after it's filed. And then I will resolve it at that  
4 point. Okay.

5           All right. So the next step in the process,  
6 Mr. Wiley, is the preparation of a presentence investigation  
7 report by the U.S. Probation Office in this court. You will be  
8 asked to provide information for that report, and your lawyers  
9 may be present for your interview.

10           You will be given the opportunity to review the  
11 written presentence investigation report before it's -- before  
12 your sentencing, and you can object to any aspect of the report  
13 you may disagree with, including any of the recommended  
14 sentencing guidelines that the probation office recommends.

15           If there are any objections that have not been  
16 resolved on the report by the time of your sentencing hearing,  
17 presuming we get to that point, then I'll resolve the  
18 objections at the sentencing hearing and then determine a  
19 sentence in your case.

20           **THE DEFENDANT:** I understand, sir.

21           **THE COURT:** Pardon me?

22           **THE DEFENDANT:** I understand.

23           **THE COURT:** You'll have an opportunity to speak to  
24 the Court, if you want to be heard at that hearing, but you  
25 have the right to remain silent. That's your constitutional

1 right, and I would not hold it against you if you wish to do  
2 that.

3 So the Court directs the preparation of a written  
4 presentence report. I'm going to set sentencing for Wednesday,  
5 July 21, 2021, at 1:30 p.m. in Winston-Salem in Courtroom  
6 No. 2.

7 All right. Anything further either party wishes to  
8 address?

9 **MR. GREEN:** No, Your Honor.

10 **MR. FOSTER:** No, Your Honor.

11 **THE COURT:** Okay. All right. We'll adjourn Court  
12 then, please.

13 (Proceedings adjourned at 3:41 p.m.)

14

15 END OF VOLUME VII OF VII

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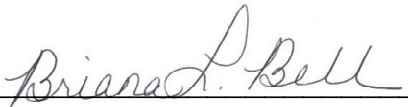
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1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
2 MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA  
3 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER  
4  
5

6 I, Briana L. Bell, Official United States Court  
7 Reporter, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and  
8 correct transcript of the proceedings in the above-entitled  
9 matter prepared to the best of my ability.

10  
11 Dated this 4th day of February 2022.  
12

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14   
15 Briana L. Bell, RPR  
16 Official Court Reporter  
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